



## Anti-FcεR1 antibody

Approximately 40% of patients with chronic urticaria have antibodies to the high affinity IgE receptor (FcεR1). Patients with autoantibodies are currently identified by histamine release assay, autologous serum skin tests and Western blot. CD203 is expressed specifically on basophils, mast cells and their CD34+ progenitor cells and is upregulated by cross-linking of the FcεR1. Sera from patients with chronic urticaria significantly upregulate basophil CD203c expression as measured by flow cytometry (1).

**Test code:** IGERAB

**Method:** Flow cytometry

**Reference range:** >5% or by report

**Specimen requirements:** 1 ml of serum

**Transport requirements:** Sera should be shipped either frozen or on an ice pack and received in the laboratory within 24 hours after drawing. The specimen is stable refrigerated for 1 week

**Turn around time:** 1-10 days - Set up 1x/week on Mondays

**Notes:** Plain red or gel barrier tube is acceptable

**CPT code:** 88184, 88185 (2)

### Serum, ambient temperature:

1. Draw enough blood in a red-top tube to provide the required amount of serum specified for each test (yield is approximately 1 ml serum per 2.5 ml of blood). Allow the blood to clot and then centrifuge within one hour.
2. Transfer the serum, free of blood cells, to a clean shipping vial. Place the specimen vial(s) in a Styrofoam container, and tape closed.

### Mailing address:

Client Services  
Clinical Reference Laboratory  
National Jewish Medical and Research Center  
1400 Jackson St., Room M013  
Denver, CO 80206  
Phone: 800.550.6227

### References:

<sup>1</sup>Yasnowsky KM, Dreskin SC, Efaw B, Schoen D, Vedanthan PK, Alam R, Harbeck RJ. Chronic urticaria sera increase basophile CD203c expression. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2006;117:1430-4.